

FORM PTO-1390  
(REV 10-94)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES  
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)  
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

9424.147USWO

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 C.F.R. 1.5)

Unknown 09/787377

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED

PCT/NL99/00577

September 16, 1999

September 16, 2000/1998

TITLE OF INVENTION

WINDOW BLIND FOR DECORATION AND SUN PROTECTION

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US

VAN AMELSVOORT

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(I).
- ☒ A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
- ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
  - a. ☒ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☒ has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US)
- ☐ A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
- ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))
  - a. ☐ are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☐ have been transmitted by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
  - d. ☒ have not been made and will not be made.
- ☐ A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
- ☒ An unsigned oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).
10. ☐ A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).

**Items 11. to 16. below concern document(s) or information included:**

11. ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
12. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☒ A FIRST preliminary amendment.  
☐ A SECOND of SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ A substitute specification.
15. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
16. ☒ Other items or information: 7 Sheets of Formal Drawings; PCT/IPEA/409; PCT/ISA/210

532 Rec'd PCT/PTO 16 MAR 2001

U.S. APPLICATION NO (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5)

Unknown

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO

PCT/NL99/00577

ATTORNEY'S BOOK NUMBER

9424.147USWO

17. [X] The following fees are submitted:

**BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492(a) (1)-(5)):**

Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO.....\$860.00

International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO  
(37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)).....\$690.00

No international preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482)  
but international search fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)).....\$710.00

Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor  
international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(3)) paid to USPTO ..... \$1000.00

International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482)  
and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(2)-(4) .....\$100.00

**ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT = \$860.00**

Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than [ ] 20 [ ] 30  
months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).

**CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY**

| CLAIMS                                      | NUMBER FILED | NUMBER EXTRA | RATE       |          |  |
|---|--------------|--------------|------------|----------|--|
| Total claims                                | 28           | -20 = 8      | X \$18.00  | \$144.00 |  |
| Independent claims                          | 4            | -3 = 1       | X \$80.00  | \$80.00  |  |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable) |              |              | + \$260.00 | \$       |  |

**TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS = \$1084.00**

Reduction by 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Small entity status is claimed  
pursuant to 37 CFR 1.27

**SUBTOTAL = \$542.00**

Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than [ ] 20 [ ] 30  
months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).

**TOTAL NATIONAL FEE = \$542.00**

Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be  
accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property

**TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED = \$542.00**

Amount to be:  
refunded \$

charged \$

a. [X] Check(s) in the amount of \$542.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.

b. [ ] Please charge my Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the above fees.  
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

c. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any  
overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

**NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.**

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO

John Gresens  
MERCHANT & GOULD  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903

SIGNATURE:

NAME: John J. Gresens

REGISTRATION NUMBER: 33,112

09/787377  
532 Rec'd PCT/PTO 16 MAR 2001

S/N unknown

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: van Amelsvoort Serial No.: unknown  
Filed: concurrent herewith Docket No.: 9424.147USWO  
Title: WINDOW BLIND FOR DECORATION AND SUN PROTECTION

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EL658340684US

Date of Deposit: March 16, 2001

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By:   
Name: Brian Maharaj

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PCT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application filed herewith, please enter the following preliminary amendments, based on claims amended in prosecution of the international application and published in the International Preliminary Examination Report, a copy of which is enclosed herewith:

IN THE ABSTRACT

Insert the attached Abstract page into the application as the last page thereof.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

A courtesy copy of the present specification is enclosed herewith. However, the World Intellectual Property Office (WIPO) copy should be relied upon if it is already in the U.S. Patent Office.

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 4-9, 11-12, 14-15, 17, 19, 22-28 as follows:

4. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 1, characterized in that the second face extends over at least substantially the full width of the window decoration.
5. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 1, characterized in that the first and the second face adjoin each other.
6. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 1, characterized in that the second face extends down to a lower side of the window decoration.
7. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 1, characterized in that the first face extends up to an upper side of the window decoration.
8. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 1, characterized in that the first and the second face each have a rectangular shape.
9. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 1, characterized in that the first face is formed by horizontal slats of a first type of non-light-transmitting design, and that the second face is formed by horizontal slats of a second type of light-transmitting design.
11. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 9, characterized in that the slats of the first type are of non-perforated design.
12. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 1, characterized in that the first and the second face are formed by vertical slats, while to each of said slats it applies that it transmits at least substantially no light for first portion of the relevant slat, said first portion forming part of the first face and partially transmits light for a second portion of the relevant slat, said portion forming part of the second face.

14. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 12, characterized in that the first portion is of non-perforated design.
15. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 3, characterized in that the first face is formed by a first cloth of the roller blind, said first cloth transmitting at least substantially no light, and that the second face is formed by a second cloth of the roller blind, said second cloth transmitting incident light partially.
17. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 2, characterized in that the first face is formed by pleated, sheet-shaped material such as cloth having a coating which transmits at least substantially no light, and that the second face is formed by pleated, sheet-shaped material such as cloth having a coating which transmits light at least partially.
19. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 1, characterized in that the first face is higher than the second face.
22. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 20, characterized in that said second portion is of perforated design.
23. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 20, characterized in that the second face extends over at least substantially the full width of the window decoration.
24. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 20, characterized in that the first and second face adjoin each other.
25. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 20, characterized in that the second face extends down to a lower side of the window decoration.
26. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 20, characterized in that the first face extends up to an upper side of the window decoration.

27. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 20, characterized in that the first and second face each have a rectangular shape.

28. (amended) A window decoration according to claim 20, characterized in that the first face is higher than the second face.

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims 4-9, 11-12, 14-15, 17, 19, 22-28.

A new abstract page is supplied to conform to that appearing on the publication page of the WIPO application, but the new Abstract is typed on a separate page as required by U.S. practice.

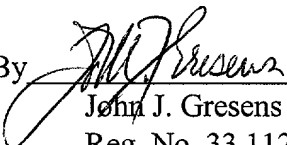
Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, John J. Gresens (Reg. No. 33,112), at (612) 371.5265.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Dated: March 16, 2001

By   
John J. Gresens  
Reg. No. 33,112

JJG/kas

Marked up copy of claims  
11

3. A window decoration/sun protection in the form of a single-layer roller blind which can be wound up at its upper side, characterized in that the window decoration, when brought into a condition ready for use, comprises a first
- 5 face extending in horizontal direction over at least substantially the full width of the window decoration and that the window decoration, when brought into the condition ready for use, comprises a second face extending in
- 10 horizontal direction of the window decoration, the first face transmitting at least substantially no light, the second face subduing the incident light in such a manner that a person present at his workplace in an inner space provided with the window decoration can still look outside through the second
- 15 face, the first face being located above the second face.
4. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 1</sup> [claim 1, 2 or 3] characterized in that the second face extends over at least substantially the full width of the window decoration.
5. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 1</sup> [any one of claims 1-4] characterized in that the first and the second face adjoin
- 20 each other.
6. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 1</sup> [any one of the preceding claims] characterized in that the second face extends down to a lower side of the window decoration.
7. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 1</sup> [any one of the preceding claims] characterized in that the first face
- 25 extends up to an upper side of the window decoration.
8. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 1</sup> [any one of the preceding claims] characterized in that the first and the second face each have a rectangular shape.
9. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 1</sup> [any one of the preceding claims] characterized in that the first face is
- 30 formed by horizontal slats of a first type of non-light-transmitting design, and that the second face is formed by horizontal slats of a second type of light-transmitting
- 35 design.

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10. A window decoration according to claim 9, characterized in that the slats of the second type are perforated.

11. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 9</sup> [claim 9 or 10] characterized in that the slats of the first type are of non-perforated design.

12. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 1</sup> [any one of preceding claims 1-8] characterized in that the first and the second face are formed by vertical slats, while to each of said slats it applies that it transmits at least substantially no light for a first portion of the relevant slat, said first portion forming part of the first face, and partially transmits light for a second portion of the relevant slat, said second portion forming part of the second face.

13. A window decoration according to claim 12, characterized in that said second portion is of perforated design.

14. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 12</sup> [claim 12 or 13] characterized in that said first portion is of non-perforated design.

15. A window decoration according to <sup>claims 3</sup> [claim 3 and optionally one of claims 4-8] characterized in that the first face is formed by a first cloth of the roller blind, said first cloth transmitting at least substantially no light, and that the second face is formed by a second cloth of the roller blind, said second cloth transmitting incident light partially.

16. A window decoration according to claim 15, characterized in that the cloth of the second face consists of gauze.

17. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 2</sup> [claim 2 and any one of claims 4-8] characterized in that the first face is formed by pleated, sheet-shaped material such as cloth having a coating which transmits at least substantially no light, and that the second face is formed by pleated, sheet-shaped material such as cloth having a coating which transmits light at least partially.

18. A window decoration according to claim 17, characterized in that the sheet-shaped material of the second face is perforated.

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19. A window decoration according to <sup>--Claim 1--</sup>any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the first face is higher than the second face.

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CLAIMS

20. A window decoration, wherein the window decoration, when brought into a condition ready for use, comprises a first face extending in horizontal direction over at least substantially the full width of the window decoration and a second face extending in horizontal direction of the window decoration, the first face being located above the second face, and the second face being translucent, characterized in that, the first and the second face are formed by vertical slats, while to each of said slats it applies that it transmits substantially no light for a first portion of the relevant slat, said first portion forming part of the first face, and partially transmits light for a second portion of the relevant slat, said second portion forming part of the second face wherein the first face transmits substantially no light and the second face subdues the incident light in such a manner that a person present at his workplace in an inner space provided with the window decoration can still look outside through the second face.

21. A window decoration according to claim 20, characterized in that said second portion is of perforated design.

22. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 20</sup> claim 20 or 21, characterized in that said first portion is of non-perforated design.

23. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 20</sup> claim 20, 21 or 22, characterized in that the second face extends over at least substantially the full width of the window decoration.

24. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 20</sup> any one of claims 20-23, characterized in that the first and the second face adjoin each other.

25. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 20</sup> any one of the preceding claims 20-24, characterized in that the second face extends down to a lower side of the window decoration.

26. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 20</sup> any one of the preceding claims 20-25, characterized in that the first face extends up to an upper side of the window decoration.

27. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 20</sup> any one of the preceding claims 20-26, characterized in that the first and the second face each have a rectangular shape.

28. A window decoration according to <sup>claim 20</sup> any one of the preceding claims 20-27, characterized in that the first face is higher than the second face.

AMENDED SHEET

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

09/787377


Applicant: van Amelsvoort  
 Docket: 9424.147USWO  
 Title: WINDOW BLIND FOR DECORATION AND SUN PROTECTION

## CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number. EL658340684US

Date of Deposit: March 16, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By:   
 Name: Brian Maharaj

BOX PCT  
 Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

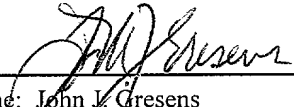
- ☒ Transmittal sheet, in duplicate, containing Certificate under 37 CFR 1.10.
- ☒ National Stage PCT Patent Application: Spec. 9 pgs; 28 claims; Abstract 1 pgs.  
The fee has been calculated as shown below in the 'Claims as Filed' table.
- ☒ 7 sheets of formal drawings
- ☒ Small entity status is claimed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.27
- ☒ An unsigned Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney
- ☒ A check in the amount of \$542.00 to cover the Filing Fee
- ☒ Other: Form PTO-1390; Preliminary Amendment; PCT/IPEA/409; PCT/ISA/210
- ☒ Return postcard

## CLAIMS AS FILED

| Number of Claims Filed       |   | In Excess of: |   | Number Extra |   | Rate  |   | Fee      |
|------------------------------|---|---------------|---|--------------|---|-------|---|----------|
| Basic Filing Fee:            |   |               |   |              |   |       |   | \$430.00 |
| Total Claims                 |   |               |   |              |   |       |   |          |
| 28                           | - | 20            | = | 8            | x | 9.00  | = | \$72.00  |
| Independent Claims           |   |               |   |              |   |       |   |          |
| 4                            | - | 3             | = | 1            | x | 40.00 | = | \$40.00  |
| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM FEE |   |               |   |              |   |       |   | \$0.00   |
| TOTAL FILING FEE             |   |               |   |              |   |       |   | \$542.00 |

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
 P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
 (612) 332-5300

By:   
 Name: John J. Gresens  
 Reg. No.: 33,112  
 Initials: JJG/kas



WINDOW BLIND FOR DECORATION AND SUN PROTECTION

The invention relates to a window decoration/sun protection in the form of a horizontal or vertical slatted blind.

5 The invention also relates to a window decoration/sun protection in the form of a pleated blind, comprising an upper box and a lower beam, while between the upper box and the lower beam, in the condition ready for use, there is exclusively located a sheet-shaped material pleated in one piece.

10 The invention also relates to a window decoration/sun protection in the form of a single-layer roller blind capable of being wound up at its upper side.

15 Accordingly, such window decorations are frequently applied in offices where computers are used. The screens of the computers prove to be properly readable only when the incident light from outside is sufficiently subdued. As it turns out, the window decorations know per se can subdue the light sufficiently for rendering a screen positioned at a workplace properly readable. However, a drawback of the known  
20 window decorations is that the use of these decorations is experienced as unpleasant. Tests have shown that persons present in a space in which the windows are provided with the known window decorations will, after a passage of time, start to feel unwell, which may lead to mental and physical  
25 strains.

The object of the invention is to provide a solution to the above-outlined problem. To this end, the window decorations according to the invention are each characterized in that the window decoration, when brought into a condition  
30 ready for use, comprises a first face extending in horizontal direction over at least substantially the full width of the window decoration and that the window decoration, when brought into the condition ready for use, comprises a second face extending in horizontal direction of the window  
35 decoration, the first face transmitting at least

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substantially no light (non-transparent or semi-transparent), the second face subduing the incident light such that a person present at his workplace in an inner space provided with the window decoration can still look outside through the second face, the first face being located above the second face.

As a person can still look outside to a certain extent through the second face and distinguish at least some contours of the outside world, he proves not to feel oppressed any longer. Also when a person stays for a longer period in a space provided with a window decoration according to the invention, it turns out that the above-mentioned physical and mental strains do not occur any longer.

Also, the screens still prove to be properly readable, in spite of the transmission of a certain amount of light through the second face. However, this is compensated for by the fact that the first face transmits at least substantially no light, so that the total light transmission of the window decoration is sufficiently low to enable reading the screens properly.

Preferably, it applies that the second face extends at least substantially over the full width of the window decoration. This last will be the case in particular when the window decoration itself is approximately as wide as a window or door in front of which the window decoration is located.

Further, it applies in particular that the first and second faces adjoin each other.

Also, it will generally apply that the second face extends down to a lower side of the window decoration. However, this is not required. Also, it generally applies that the first face extends up to the upper side of the window decoration. However, this is not required either, because at the upper side of the window decoration, there may further be present a face whose properties deviate from those of the first face.

In particular, it applies that the first and second faces each have a rectangular shape. (May be horizontal or vertical).

The invention may be applied to horizontal slatted blinds, vertical slatted blinds, roller blinds, pleated blinds, folding curtains, panel curtains, lace curtains, and the like, as will hereinafter be further explained with reference to the accompanying drawings. In these drawings:

Fig. 1 shows a first embodiment of a horizontal slatted blind and a pleated blind according to the invention when this blind is fitted at a window of an inner space in which a workplace is located;

Fig. 2a is a side elevation of the slatted blind of Fig. 1;

Fig. 2b is a side elevation of the pleated blind of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 shows a first embodiment for a roller blind according to the invention;

Fig. 4 shows a first embodiment of a vertical slatted blind according to the invention;

Fig. 5 shows a second embodiment of a vertical slatted blind according to the invention;

Fig. 6 shows a second embodiment of a roller blind according to the invention; and

Fig. 7 shows a second embodiment of a horizontal slatted blind and a pleated blind according to the invention.

In Fig. 1, reference numeral 1 designates a window decoration/sun protection in the form of a horizontal slatted blind according to the invention. The slatted blind 1 is mounted on a wall 2 of an inner space 4 containing a workplace 6 with a picture screen 8.

In this example, the horizontal slatted blind is in use, i.e. the horizontal slatted blind is in its expanded condition. Fig. 2a is a side elevation of the slatted blind.

The slatted blind comprises horizontal slats 10, attached in a manner known per se to a horizontal upper box,

known per se. Located in the upper box 12 is a mechanism for hoisting and folding-in the window decoration by means of a hoist cord 18. A number of these slats 10.1 of a first type form a face whose width is indicated by an arrow B in the drawing and whose height is indicated by an arrow I in the drawing. Further, a number of slats 10.2 of a second type form a second face whose width is again indicated by the arrow B in the drawing and whose height is indicated by an arrow II in the drawing.

In this example, the slats 10.1 of the first type are designed so as to transmit at least substantially no light. Further, the slats 10.2 of the second type are of such design that they transmit incident light from outside in subdued form. For this purpose, the slats 10.2 of the second type are perforated in a manner known per se and each comprise a large number of small apertures.

As a result, in the apparatus according to Fig. 1, the window decoration, when brought into a condition ready for use, comprises a first face (B, I) extending in horizontal direction over at least substantially the full width and in this example even over the entire width of the window decoration, and the window decoration in this condition comprises a second face (B, II) extending in horizontal direction of the window decoration, the first face transmitting at least substantially no light, the second face subduing the incident light such that the person present in an inner space at his workplace can still look outside through the second face, the first face being located above the second face.

In this example, it also applies that the second face (B, II) extends over at least substantially the full width of the window decoration and in this example even over the entire width. Further, in this case, it applies that the first and the second face adjoin each other. Moreover, the second face extends down to the lower side 14 of the window decoration. In turn, the first face extends up to an upper

side 16 of the window decoration. In this example, it also applies that the first face (B, I) is higher than the second face (B, II).

The slats 10.1 of the first type can, for instance, be of aluminum, plastic or wooden design. It also applies that the slats of the second type 10.2 may be constructed of the same materials. It is also possible that the slats of the second type 10.2 are manufactured from transparent plastic, in which case perforation is not necessary.

In the situation as shown in Fig. 1, a person who is present at the workplace 6 and wishes to read the screen 8, will be able to do so in a proper manner. Due to a combination of the first face, transmitting no light, with the second face which does actually transmit a portion of the light from outside, the total amount of incident light is sufficiently subdued to provide that the screen 8 remains properly readable. At the same time, a person present at the workplace 6 is still able to look outside through the second face (B, II) and distinguish at least some contours of the outside world. In this example, a number of trees 20 are vaguely visible.

If the window decoration is designed as a pleated blind, comprising a sheet-shaped material pleated in one piece, its appearance will be comparable to Fig. 1. This window decoration comprises an upper box 12 and a lower beam 21, while between the upper box 12 and the lower beam 21, in the (expanded) condition ready for use, there is exclusively located a sheet-shaped material pleated in one piece. However, this material, pleated in one piece, may be built up from different sheets of material. The first face is then formed by a pleated, sheet-shaped material 22 which transmits at least substantially no light (non-transparent or semi-transparent; see Fig. 2b). The second face is formed by a pleated, sheet-shaped material 24 which transmits incident light at least partially. The sheet-shaped first material 22 may, for instance, consist of a cloth having a coating of



aluminum applied thereto by vaporization. The same holds for the second pleated sheet-shaped material 24, in which, however, a perforation has moreover been provided in the sheet-shaped material, so that a person present at the workplace can still look outside to some extent. The second pleated sheet-shaped material may also consist of a transparent cloth. The first and second sheet-shaped materials are directly interconnected and constitute the sheet-shaped material pleated in one piece, in other words: without intermediate beam between the first and second sheet-shaped materials 22, 24 and the like. The connection may consist of a layer of adhesive 25.

Fig. 3 shows a second possible embodiment of a window decoration according to the invention. Here, corresponding parts have been provided with the same reference numerals.

In the window decoration according to Fig. 3, the window decoration is designed as a single-layer roller blind of the type which can be wound up on a roll 12 at the upper side 16. In this window decoration, the first face (B, I) is formed by a cloth 26 of the roller blind, which cloth 26 transmits at least substantially no light. The second face (B, II) of the roller blind is formed by a second cloth 28 of the roller blind, which second cloth transmits incident light partially. The first cloth can again consist, for instance, of textile with a plasticized rear side. It may also consist of entirely plasticized cloth and textile having an aluminum coating applied thereto by vaporization.

The second cloth 28 may, for instance, consist of gauze, dark-colored transparent plastic, transparent cloth, textile having an aluminum coating that has been perforated, etc. The first and second cloths can again be attached to each other by means of adhesive 25 and together form a single layer which can be wound onto the roll 12 for opening the roller blind.

Fig. 4 shows a fourth variant of the window decoration according to the invention. Parts corresponding to those of

the preceding Figures have been provided with the same reference numerals. In the window decoration according to Fig. 4, it applies that it is designed as a vertical slatted blind. The first face (B, I) and the second face (B, II) are each formed by the same vertical slats 30.

Further, it applies to each of these slats that they transmit at least substantially no light for a first portion 32 of the slats located in the first face (B, I) and that these slats comprise a second portion 34 which partially transmits the light, said second portion forming part of the second face (B, II). The above can for instance be realized by manufacturing the slats 30 from aluminum and/or plastic (PVC), while only the lower sides of the slats, i.e. the portion 34 of each of the slats, is perforated. Other variants are slats which are each manufactured from colored, transparent plastic which partially transmits incident light, while it moreover applies that the first portion 32 of each of the slats is provided with a coating that transmits at least substantially no light. Accordingly, the effect is again that the first face (B, I) extends in horizontal direction over the full width of the window decoration and transmits at least substantially no light, and that the second face (B, II) likewise extends in horizontal direction, in this case even over the entire width of the window decoration, the second face subduing the incident light in such a manner that the person present at his workplace in the inner space can still look outside through the second face, the first face being located above the second face.

Fig. 5 shows a window decoration which at least substantially corresponds to the window decoration of Fig. 4. In this case, however, the slats are of longer design, to form a third face (B, III). This third face (B, III) can, for instance, have the same properties as the second face (B, II). Each slat 30 then comprises a third portion 34 having the same properties as the portion 32 of the relevant slat. However, it is also possible that the third face (B, III) has

the same properties as the first face (B, I). Each slat 30 then comprises a third portion 36 having the same properties as the portion 22 of the relevant slat. The face (B, III) can, for instance, be located below the window sill and need not be especially partially light-transmitting for creating the possibility of looking outside therethrough. Also if the window extended down to the floor 40, the third face (B, III) may be designed for transmitting no light. Indeed, a person present at his workplace can always look outside to some extent via the second face (B, II). Of course, the third face (B, III) may also have properties regarding light transmission that differ from those of the first and second faces (B, I) and (B, II).

Fig. 6 shows the roller blind according to Fig. 3, with the understanding that it is likewise enlarged by a face (B, III) having the same properties as discussed in relation to Fig. 5. Hence, the face (B, III) may be manufactured from the same cloth as the cloth from which the face (B, II) is manufactured. It is also possible that the face (B, III) is manufactured from the same cloth as the cloth of the face (B, I). Where they adjoin each other, the different cloths used can readily be glued together. Such variants are each understood to fall within the framework of the invention.

Also to the window decoration according to Fig. 1 (relating both to a horizontal blind and to a pleated blind), it applies that it may further be provided with a third face (B, III), see Fig. 7. In the case where a horizontal blind is concerned, the horizontal slats located in the face (B, III) may be identical to the horizontal slats located in the face B, II or to the horizontal slats located in the face B, I. Such variants also fall within the framework of the invention. When the apparatus according to Fig. 7 forms a pleated blind, the material from which the pleated blind is formed in the face (B, III) may correspond to the material of the pleated blind in the face (B, II) or in the face (B, I)

or be of further deviating material. Such variants fall within the framework of the invention as well.

In the foregoing, the first face and the first face are each of rectangular design. However, it is also conceivable that, for instance, the second face has a shape differing from the rectangle. It is also possible that the vertical slatted blind (Figs. 4, 5) is on one or either side enlarged with additional slats which are entirely or partially transparent and/or non-transparent. The slats may, for instance, be suspended beyond a window in front of a wall and, for instance, exclusively have a decorative function. It is also possible that two or more vertical slatted blinds according to the invention are fitted on one horizontal rail or box 12, for instance for suspending in front of two or more windows. Before an interspace between the windows, additional slats may then be suspended from the horizontal rail or box 12. These additional slats may again be entirely or partially transparent and/or non-transparent and form again additional window decorations.

In the embodiments outlined hereinabove, the first face (B, I) extends at least substantially over the full width of the window decoration.

Of course, the horizontal blinds (Figs. 1, 2a, 7), pleated blinds (Figs. 1, 2b) or roller blind (Fig. 6) may also be one-sidedly or two-sidedly widened utilizing additionally longer slats or additionally wider, sheet-shaped material. The widened parts may then have properties similar to or different from those of the material of the faces (B, I), (B, II) or (B, III) and constitute additional window decorations. Such variants are each understood to fall within the framework of the invention.

Claims

1. A window decoration/sun protection in the form of a horizontal or vertical slatted blind, characterized in that the window decoration, when brought into a condition ready for use, comprises a first face extending in horizontal direction over at least substantially the full width of the window decoration and that the window decoration, when brought into the condition ready for use, comprises a second face extending in horizontal direction of the window decoration, the first face transmitting at least substantially no light, the second face subduing the incident light in such a manner that a person present at his workplace in an inner space provided with the window decoration can still look outside through the second face, the first face being located above the second face.

2. A window decoration/sun protection in the form of a pleated blind, comprising an upper box and a lower beam, while between the upper box and the lower beam, in the condition ready for use, there is exclusively located a sheet-shaped material pleated in one piece, characterized in that the window decoration, when brought into the condition ready for use, comprises a first face extending in horizontal direction over at least substantially the full width of the window decoration and that the window decoration, when brought into the condition ready for use, comprises a second face extending in horizontal direction of the window decoration, the first face transmitting at least substantially no light, the second face subduing the incident light in such a manner that a person present at his workplace in an inner space provided with the window decoration can still look outside through the second face, the first face being located above the second face, the first and the second face being located between the upper box and the lower beam.

3. A window decoration/sun protection in the form of a single-layer roller blind which can be wound up at its upper side, characterized in that the window decoration, when brought into a condition ready for use, comprises a first  
5 face extending in horizontal direction over at least substantially the full width of the window decoration and that the window decoration, when brought into the condition ready for use, comprises a second face extending in horizontal direction of the window decoration, the first face  
10 transmitting at least substantially no light, the second face subduing the incident light in such a manner that a person present at his workplace in an inner space provided with the window decoration can still look outside through the second face, the first face being located above the second face.

15 4. A window decoration according to claim 1, 2 or 3, characterized in that the second face extends over at least substantially the full width of the window decoration.

5. A window decoration according to any one of claims 1-4, characterized in that the first and the second face adjoin  
20 each other.

6. A window decoration according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the second face extends down to a lower side of the window decoration.

7. A window decoration according to any one of the  
25 preceding claims, characterized in that the first face extends up to an upper side of the window decoration.

8. A window decoration according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the first and the second face each have a rectangular shape.

30 9. A window decoration according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the first face is formed by horizontal slats of a first type of non-light-transmitting design, and that the second face is formed by horizontal slats of a second type of light-transmitting  
35 design.

10. A window decoration according to claim 9, characterized in that the slats of the second type are perforated.

11. A window decoration according to claim 9 or 10, characterized in that the slats of the first type are of non-perforated design.

12. A window decoration according to any one of preceding claims 1-8, characterized in that the first and the second face are formed by vertical slats, while to each of said slats it applies that it transmits at least substantially no light for a first portion of the relevant slat, said first portion forming part of the first face, and partially transmits light for a second portion of the relevant slat, said second portion forming part of the second face.

13. A window decoration according to claim 12, characterized in that said second portion is of perforated design.

14. A window decoration according to claim 12 or 13, characterized in that said first portion is of non-perforated design.

15. A window decoration according to claim 3 and optionally one of claims 4-8, characterized in that the first face is formed by a first cloth of the roller blind, said first cloth transmitting at least substantially no light, and that the second face is formed by a second cloth of the roller blind, said second cloth transmitting incident light partially.

16. A window decoration according to claim 15, characterized in that the cloth of the second face consists of gauze.

17. A window decoration according to claim 2 and any one of claims 4-8, characterized in that the first face is formed by pleated, sheet-shaped material such as cloth having a coating which transmits at least substantially no light, and that the second face is formed by pleated, sheet-shaped material such as cloth having a coating which transmits light at least partially.

18. A window decoration according to claim 17, characterized in that the sheet-shaped material of the second face is perforated.

19. A window decoration according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the first face is higher than the second face.

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## CLAIMS

20. A window decoration, wherein the window decoration, when brought into a condition ready for use, comprises a first face extending in horizontal direction over at least substantially the full width of the window decoration and a second face extending in horizontal direction of the window decoration, the first face being located above the second face, and the second face being translucent, characterized in that, the first and the second face are formed by vertical slats, while to each of said slats it applies that it transmits substantially no light for a first portion of the relevant slat, said first portion forming part of the first face, and partially transmits light for a second portion of the relevant slat, said second portion forming part of the second face wherein the first face transmits substantially no light and the second face subdues the incident light in such a manner that a person present at his workplace in an inner space provided with the window decoration can still look outside through the second face.

21. A window decoration according to claim 20, characterized in that said second portion is of perforated design.

22. A window decoration according to claim 20 or 21, characterized in that said first portion is of non-perforated design.

23. A window decoration according to claim 20, 21 or 22, characterized in that the second face extends over at least substantially the full width of the window decoration.

24. A window decoration according to any one of claims 20-23, characterized in that the first and the second face adjoin each other.

25. A window decoration according to any one of the preceding claims 20-24, characterized in that the second face extends down to a lower side of the window decoration.

26. A window decoration according to any one of the preceding claims 20-25, characterized in that the first face extends up to an upper side of the window decoration.

27. A window decoration according to any one of the preceding claims 20-26, characterized in that the first and the second face each have a rectangular shape.

28. A window decoration according to any one of the preceding claims 20-27, characterized in that the first face is higher than the second face.

AMENDED SHEET

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## ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a window decoration/sun protection such as a horizontal slatted blind, a vertical slatted blind, a roller blind, and a pleated blind. When brought into a condition ready for use, the window decoration comprises a first face extending in horizontal direction over at least substantially the full width of the window decoration.

- 10 When brought into the condition ready for use, the window decoration further comprises a second face extending in horizontal direction of the window decoration. The first face transmits at least substantially no light. The second face subdues the incident light in such a manner that a person present at his workplace in an inner space provided with the window decoration can still look outside through the second face, the first face being
- 15 located above the second face.

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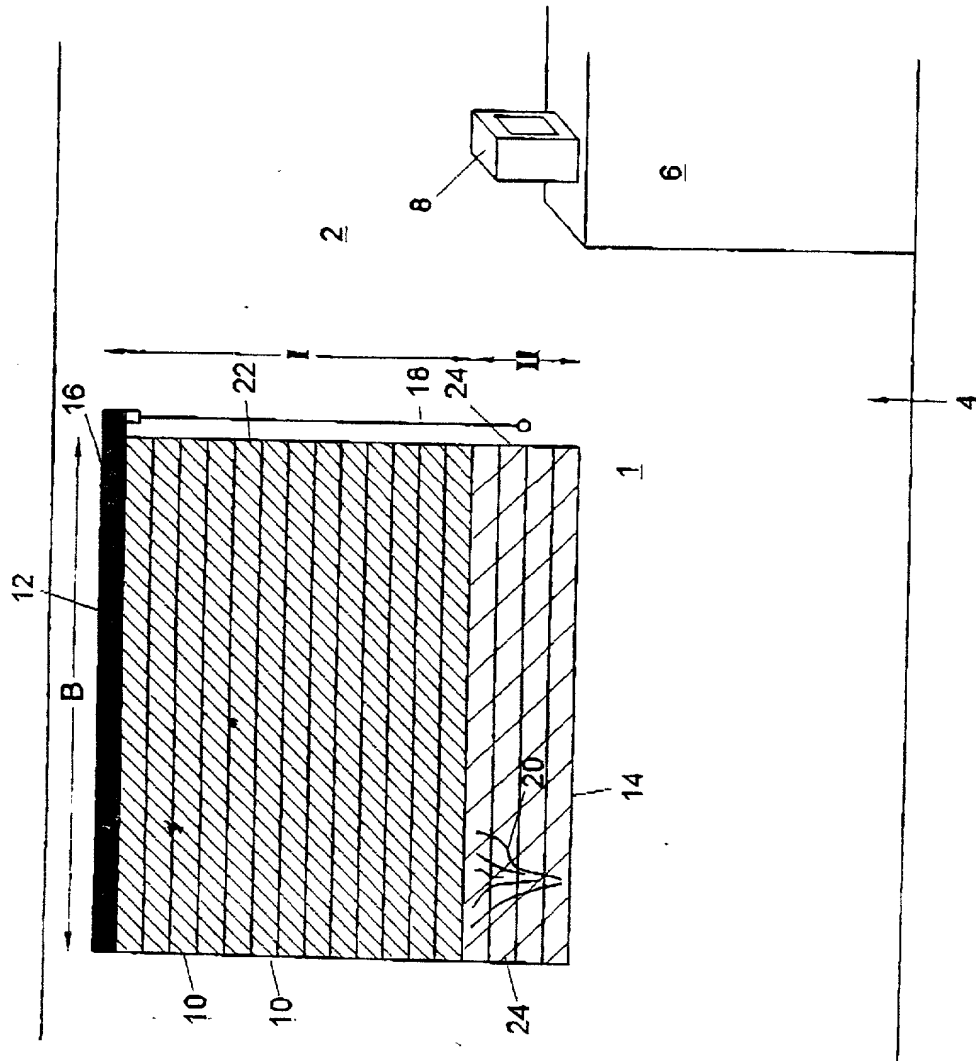


Fig. 1

FOI 300 2/25/96

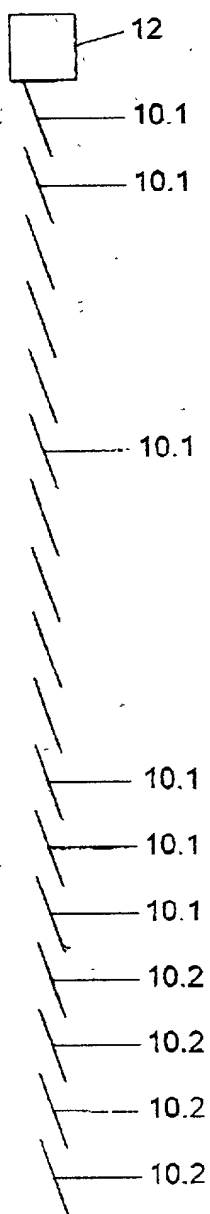


Fig. 2A

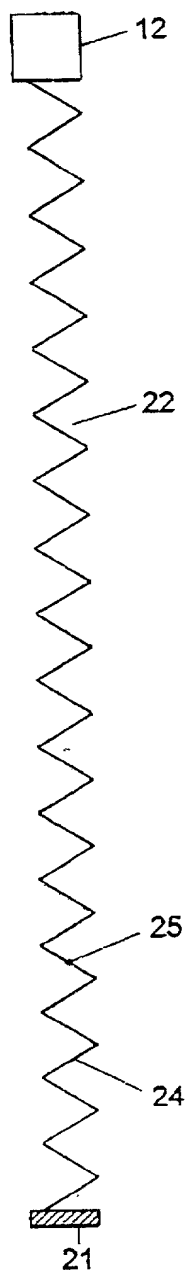
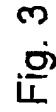


Fig. 2B



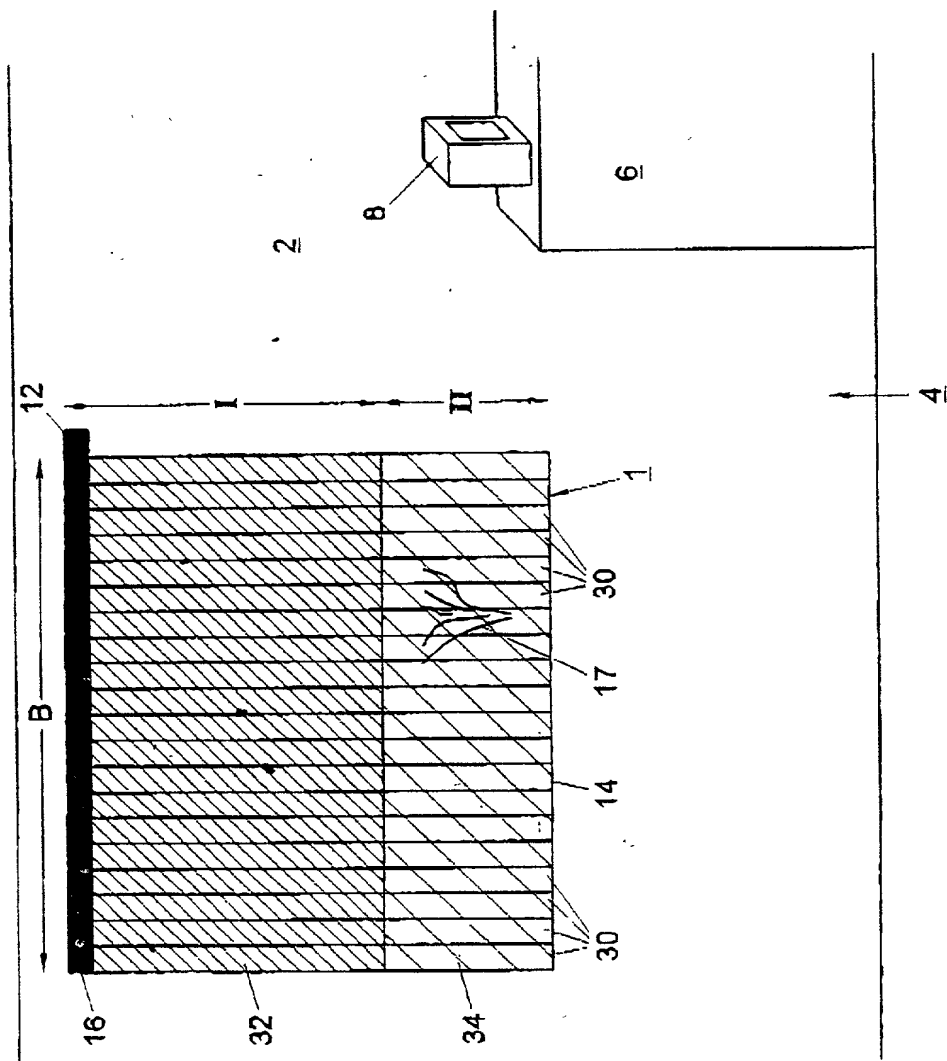


Fig. 4

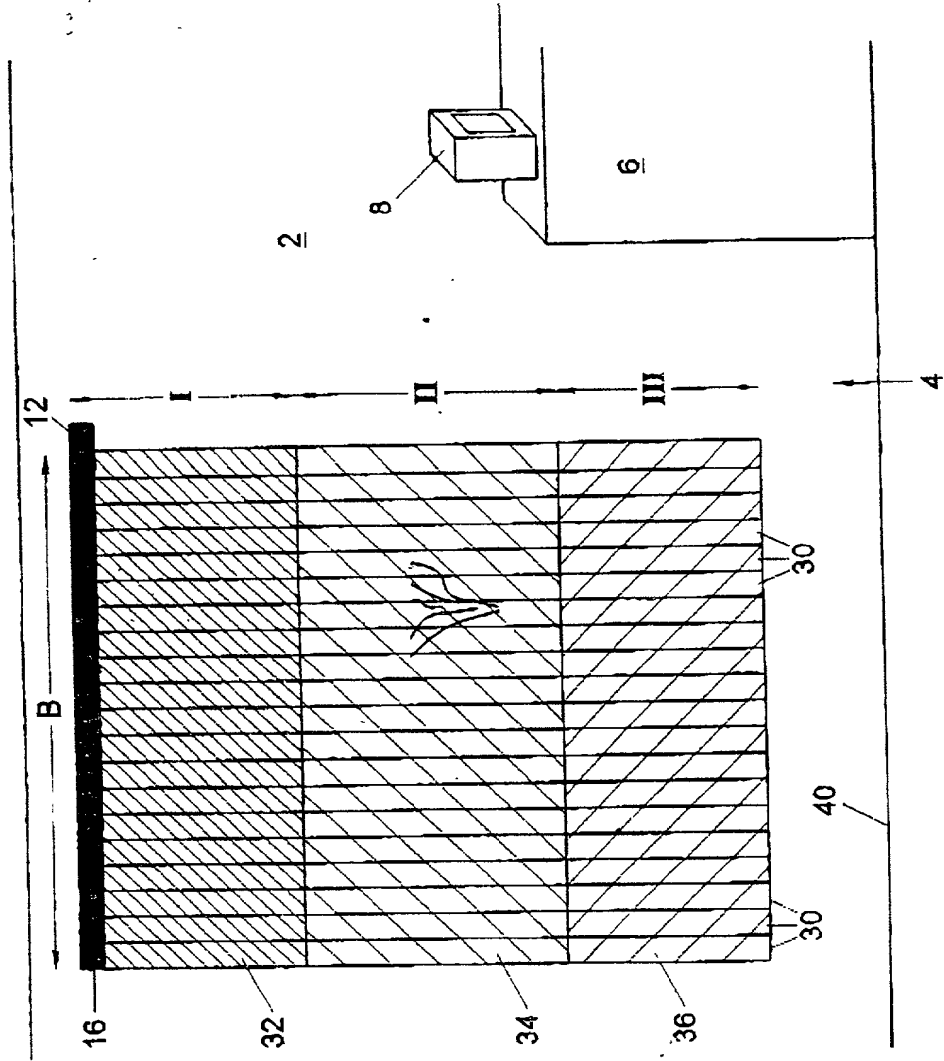


Fig. 5

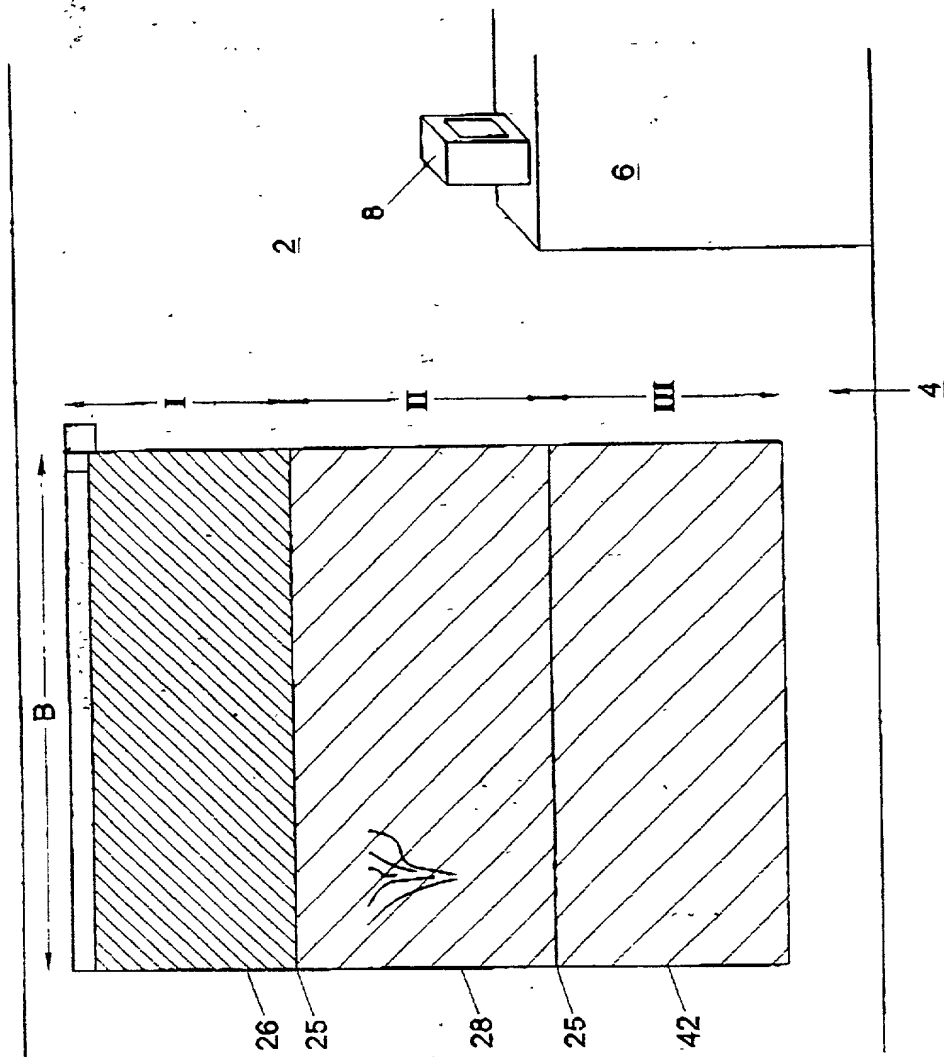


Fig. 6



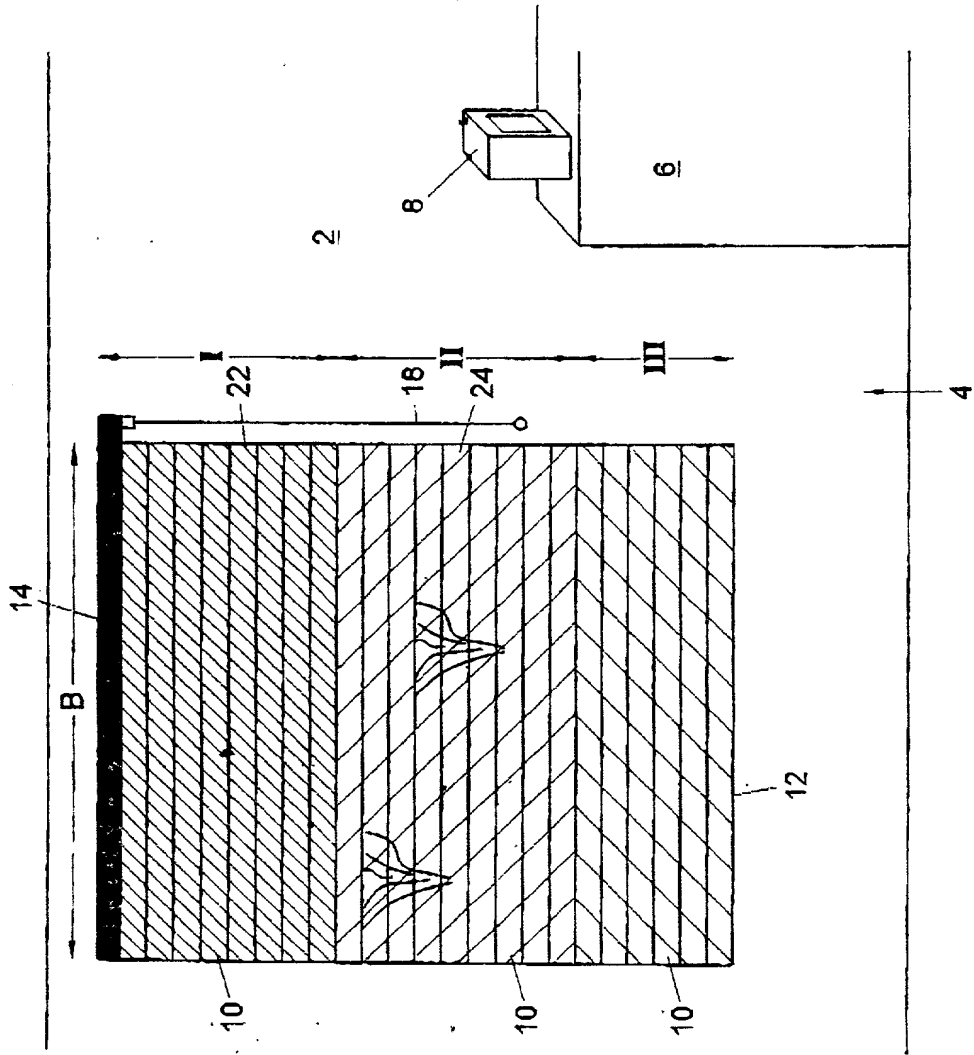


Fig. 7

FOI 800 268260



## Declaration and Power of Attorney Patent Application (Design or Utility)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: "Window Blind for Decoration and Sun Protection".

the specification of which

- ☐ is attached hereto  
x was filed on March 16, 2001, as application serial no. 09/787,377 and or PCT International Application number PCT/NL99/00577 and was amended on (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information know to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

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| Prior Foreign Application(s) |         |                      |
|------------------------------|---------|----------------------|
| Number                       | Country | Day/Month/Year Filed |
| 1010110                      | NL      | 16 September 1998    |
| Number                       | Country | Day/Month/Year Filed |
| 1013031                      | NL      | 13 September 1999    |
| Number                       | Country | Day/Month/Year Filed |

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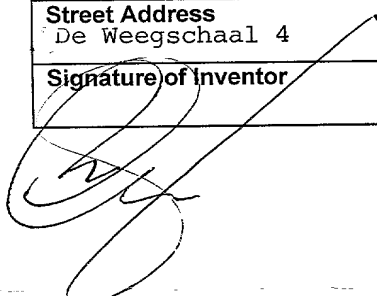
| Prior U.S. or International Application(s) |                      |                                       |
|--|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Serial Number                              | Day/Month/Year Filed | Status (patented, pending, abandoned) |
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I hereby authorize them or others whom they may appoint to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/organization who/which first sends this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instructed otherwise.

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## Power of Attorney

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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